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TO RUESX BQ/AMEMBASSY BERN PRIORITY 5370

RUFHAU/AMEMBASSY VIENNA PRIORITY 0633

RUESHL/AMEMBASSY HELSINKI PRIORITY 3570

INFO RUEHMO/AMEMBASSY MOSCOW PRIORITY 3836

RUFHGV/USMISSION GENEVA PRIORITY 0649

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CONFIDENTIAL STATE 143534

JO SALT

SUBJECT: LOCALE FOR PHASE II OF SALT

REF: A. STATE 143122
B. STATE 141966

1. CONVERSATIONS BETWEEN ACDA DEPUTY DIRECTOR FARLEY AND VORONTSOV OF SOVIET EMBASSY HAVE DIRECT BEARING ON TIMING OF INFORMING AUSTRIAN AND FINNISH GOVERNMENTS RE MOVE TO GENEVA, AND ON TIMING OF PRESS RELEASE. IN ORDER TO PROCE WITH PARALLEL US AND SOVIET APPROACHES, US HAS PROPOSED INFORMING FINNS AND AUSTRIANS AS SOON AS POSSIBLE AFTER RECEIVING GREEN LIGHT FROM SWISS -- HOPEFULLY AFTER NOON OF WEDNESDAY, AUGUST 11TH WITH PRESS ANNOUNCEMENT ON FRIDAY, AUGUST 13TH. VORONTSOV DOUBTED THAT MOSCOW GO AHEAD WOULD BE RECEIVED BEFORE THURSDAY MORNING AT EARLIEST, AND THOUGHT IT LIKELY NOTICE TO FINNS AND AUSTRIANS COULD NOT PROCEED UNTIL FRIDAY AND PRESS ANNOUNCEMENT ON SATURDAY. U.S. PRESSING FOR ADVISING FINNS AND AUSTRIANS ON THURSDAY AND PRESS ANNOUNCEMENT ON FRIDAY. WILL ADVISE AS SOON AS WE HEAR FROM SOVIET EMBASSY.

2. AT VORONTSOV REQUEST AND IN ORDER TO INSURE SIMILAR
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SOVIET LINE, WE HAVE PROVIDED SOVIET EMBASSY WITH FOLLOWING TALKING POINTS FOR USE WITH FINNS AND AUSTRIANS BASED ON THOSE CONTAINED IN PARAS. 4 AND 5 OF REF. B;

A. WHILE HELSINKI AND VIENNA PROVIDED EXCELLENT FACILITIES AND HOSPITALITY DURING SALT I, THERE WILL BE SIGNIFICANT ADMINISTRATIVE AND FINANCIAL ADVANTAGES IN SELECTING A SINGLE LOCATION FOR FUTURE SALT RATHER THAN CONTINUING TO ROTATE BETWEEN TWO SITES.

B. THE U.S. AND SOVIET GOVERNMENTS HAVE REACHED AGREEMENT ON GENEVA AS THE SINGLE LOCATION FOR PHASE II OF SALT AND THE SWISS GOVERNMENT HAS ACCEPTED.

C. THE PRIVACY OF SALT IS NOW WELL ESTABLISHED; THUS THERE ARE NO SERIOUS DISADVANTAGES OF HAVING SALT TAKE PLACE IN THE SAME CITY AS OTHER ARMS CONTROL DISCUSSIONS.

D. EXPRESS OUR APPRECIATION FOR THE SUPPORT AND COOPERATION RECEIVED FROM THE HOST GOVERNMENTS THROUGHOUT PHASE I OF SALT.

E. NO DATE HAS BEEN ESTABLISHED FOR THE OPENING SESSION OF SALT PHASE II, ALTHOUGH MID-OCTOBER HAS BEEN MENTIONED. SHOULD IT BE AGREED TO START PHASE II OF SALT BEFORE THE US DELEGATION HAS ACQUIRED SUITABLE FACILITIES IN GENEVA, THE OPENING SESSION MAY TAKE PLACE IN VIENNA.

3. ALSO PROVIDED SOVIET EMBASSY POINTS TO BE INCORPORATED IN PRESS RELEASE AS FOLLOWS:

A. GOVERNMENTS OF US AND USSR HAVE AGREED GENEVA, SWITZERLAND AS THE LOCATION FOR SALT PHASE II NEGOTIATIONS.

B. THE SWISS GOVERNMENT HAS INDICATED THEY WOULD WELCOME THE SALT NEGOTIATIONS TO GENEVA.

C. THE GOVERNMENTS OF THE US AND USSR EXPRESS THEIR SINCERE APPRECIATION FOR THE WHOLEHEARTED SUPPORT AND COOPERATION RECEIVED FROM THE GOVERNMENTS OF FINLAND AND AUSTRIA THROUGHOUT PHASE I OF SALT.

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D. THE US AND USSR CAME TO THE CONCLUSION THAT BECAUSE OF ADMINISTRATIVE PROBLEMS INVOLVED IN THE ROTATION BETWEEN HELSINKI AND VIENNA, IT WOULD BE MORE ADVANTAGEOUS TO SETTLE ON A SINGLE LOCATION

E. NO DATE HAS BEEN ESTABLISHED FOR THE OPENING OF SALT PHASE II; SHOULD THE AGREED DATE BE BEFORE THE US

SALT DELEGATION HAS ACQUIRED SUITABLE FACILITIES IN GENEVA THE OPENING SESSION MAY TAKE PLACE IN VIENNA.

OS ROGERS
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